

News From The Garden

Butterfly Release

Enjoy a wondrous flight of color!
Learn about Monarch butterflies, their
migration and their host plants.

Sunday, August 5 | 2-4 p.m.
Hurley Park, near Haden's Gazebo



SUMMER 2018

Back to Butterflies!

By: **Danelle Cutting**

Butterflies are unique, beautiful and come in an array of colors. In Hurley Park, we see many pollinators from honey bees to the lowly moths. One thing that all pollinators have in common is that they need a food source. Luckily, Hurley Park provides just that!

Currently, we have different varieties of milkweed in bloom. This is wonderful because it is a host plant for a few butterflies. Being a host plant means that the butterflies can either collect nectar/food from the plant's flowers and the caterpillars can devour the entire plants themselves. If we do not grow these plants, we lose out on our pollinators and of course, our beautiful butterflies. Since not everyone knows this about pollinators and butterflies, Hurley Park has decided to help continue educating the public.

Last year, Hurley Park hosted a "Butterfly Release" celebration. It was such a success that Hurley Park has added it to our annual lineup. The event was conducted by All-A-Flutter Farms. This year, we will be hosting the event on Sunday, August 5 from 2-4 p.m. near Haden's Gazebo. Mark your calendar because this event will be just as fantastic!

Participants will learn about butterflies, Monarch butterflies and their migration, host plants, and guests will even receive their very own milkweed seed to plant at their home gardens. This is a great opportunity to help out our local pollinators since their habitat and host plant locations have dwindled due to urban encroachment and new farming practices. With a little bit of luck and education, we can help our local pollinators thrive for future generations.



serious problems. The oak is a large mature tree with signs of decay at its base. As you can see, this oak was beginning to come apart. The solution to keep this tree as long as we can was "Cable & Bracing." Holes were drilled and four steel rods were driven completely through the two trunks.

If you look closely at the picture on the left you can see a third tree, a large ash tree. There are two cables high up in the canopy - one connects the two oaks together, and the other goes from the oak to the ash for stability. Our hope is that we can keep this oak for at least another ten years before it must be removed.

Red Oak Receives A Helping Hand

By: **Mark Martin**

This large red oak tree is located along N. Craig St. Early in 2018 this oak tree was identified as having some



Haden's Gazebo

Tips From the Garden:

Planting in the fall helps give plants plenty of time to get their roots established. The fall usually has cooler weather and plants do not need as much water, and they don't have to expend precious energy to put out leaves, flowers and fruit.

Before planting always make sure you take a soil test (free until December 1st from the Rowan County Cooperative Extension office). Once you get the results you can even ask your local Extension agent to help explain the report, then make your soil amendments before planting. This can ensure your plants and trees thrive for many years.



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